## ABSTRACT

A lubricant for powder metallurgy comprises a polyhydroxycarboxylic acid amide of the following formula (1):

$$R^{1}CON < \frac{R^{2}}{R^{3}}$$
 (1)

(wherein  $R^1$  represents an alkyl group having from 2 to 10 carbon atoms and substituted with plural hydroxyl groups;  $R^2$  represents a hydrocarbon group having from 8 to 30 carbon atoms; and  $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom, or a hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms).

Using the lubricant for powder metallurgy improves both flowability and lubricity irrespective of the presence or absence of any complicated pretreatment step.